



## **STATEWIDE SELF ADVOCACY NETWORK MEETING** **MINUTES/NOTES**

**DATE:** Tuesday, September 10, 2013 and  
Wednesday, September 11, 2013



**TIME:**

**DAY 1-** Tuesday, September 10, 2013- 10:00am-5:45pm

**DAY 2-** Wednesday, September 11, 2013- 8:30am-3:00pm



**WHERE:** Hilton Arden West  
2200 Harvard Street  
Sacramento, CA 95815



### **9:30 am – Meet and Greet**

#### **10:00am - Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions**

Trena Wade- Acting Chair called the meeting to order at 10:04am. Members present: Trena Wade (AB13), Robert Levy (MIND), Jennifer Allen (SCDD), Sigrid Bremer (AB9), Nicole Patterson (DDS), Daniel Meadows (DRC), Kyle Minnis (AB11), Michael Arbios (AB4), Chris Rogel (AB12), Robert Balderama (AB6), Regina Woodliff (AB5), Kecia Weller (UCLA), Ted Jackson (CFILC)

Others present: Mary Agnes, Rene and Sherry, Cindy (4), Roberta, Julie McKenzie, Mary Ellen, Mark P, Thomas, Dena H, Christine (Daniel's facilitator) – Sarah May (2), Ron (5), Anastasia Bacigalupo (9)

Kyle mentioned that SSAN may lose a quorum tomorrow and suggested doing nominations today instead at the end. Statements were made regarding nominations and that the agenda did not reflect voting for new officers. Trena explained that she did not feel there would be time on the packed agenda during this meeting to vote for new officers, and that it wasn't appropriate to vote until the bylaws were completed.

### **Review and Approval of Agenda**

It was moved/seconded (Kyle/Jennifer) to approve the agenda with a unanimous voice vote



### **Review and Approval of June 2013 Minutes**

It was moved/seconded (Kyle/Sigrid) to approve the minutes as submitted. Kecia abstained, all others voice in favor – motion passed.



### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment but Sigrid asked if members were going to get SSAN business cards. Mary Agnes commented that they do have business cards and will get Sigrid some. Regina commented that she has business cards with her picture on them.



### **Facilitation Training**

Sherry Beamer and Renee Gonzales of CAPC, Inc provided training on Facilitator and Attendant Selection. Members participated in a role playing exercise and received a packet with handouts with tools to use for themselves or share with others.



### **Operating Rules Training and Review of Sample Bylaws**

Trena Wade, Acting Chair went over a PowerPoint presentation on Bylaws. Trena discussed how bylaws

usually include a name, mission statement, membership, officers, meetings, voting, committees and amendment process. To assist in discussion and prepare to meet in break out groups, the draft of Operating Rules prepared by BRC in 7/2012 was handed out as a template. Additionally, the Volunteer Member (Not Paid) description was also handed out for reference. Mary Agnes described that the document was prepared by the previous contractor on what to look for in a member. Trena explained that the groups that we will break into should look to see if they want to change it.



### **Breakout groups**

Members broke into groups to identify topics that needed to be included in the bylaws.



### **Regroup & Continued Discussion of the Bylaws**

Members regrouped and Trena Wade, Acting Chair led group discussion to initiate continued of the proposed bylaws.



### **Member Reports**

Member reports were postponed due to time constraints.



### **Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15pm. Some members commented by requesting that if the meeting times change that the information be communicated to all members.



## AGENDA FOR DAY 2



### **8:30am - Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions**

Trena Wade, Acting Chair called the meeting to order at 8:40 am. All members present as on day one, with the exception of Ted Jackson. Trena reviewed the agenda changes with the members.



### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment but concerns were expressed about how many SSAN members are no longer participating. Some members want to know why they aren't participating but another member stressed it should be up to the individual to share the information if they so choose.



### **Continued Discussion of Bylaws**

Trena Wade, Acting Chair led group discussion to initiate the continued discussion of the proposed bylaws.



### **State Council Update**

Prior to breaking for a lunch break, Roberta Newton- SCDD Interim Executive Director provided members with an update on the Self Advocacy Grant and reminded members that they had the opportunity to meet Sherry Beamer and

Renee Gonzalez from CAPC, Inc yesterday. Roberta provided information on the Facilitation RFP attempts. The first two RFPs were unsuccessful and they are now looking at a Payroll Management Service to be the employer of record. This will still allow the members to have a choice in their facilitators. A third Facilitation RFP will be going out provided that the Council agrees. Roberta provided information that the recruitment for a new Executive Director for SCDD continues and that they are interviewing potential candidates at the Council meeting next week.



### **Continued Discussion & Finishing Touches of Bylaws**

After returning from the lunch break, Trena Wade, Acting Chair led group discussion to initiate the continued discussion and final touches of the proposed bylaws.



### **Final Discussion and Vote on Bylaws**

Trena Wade- Acting Chair led group discussion to initiate the final changes and vote on Bylaws. Bylaws were approved.



### **Work and Benefits Training**

Bryon MacDonald – Program Director, World Institute on Disability was unable to make the meeting, therefore the training will be postponed.



### **R Word Training**

Sigrid Bremer offered to show her DVD on the R Word Training at the next meeting due to time limitations.



### **Legislative Update/ Info on Self Determination**

Mark Polit- SCDD Deputy Director of Policy & Planning provided handouts and a legislative update on the 2013 SCDD Sponsored Legislation. SCDD sponsors employment bill AB 1041 and is a co-sponsor on SB 577. SCDD supports bills for Self-Determination (SB468), Equity and Diversity (SB555 and AB 1232), Abuse and Neglect (SB651 and /AB 602), as well as other legislation on Housing (SB1 and SB 391), Autism treatment insurance mandate, (SB 126), Safety plan for individuals in licensed facilities (AB 620) and Limiting school districts to suspend or expel students (AB 420). Members were provided two alerts that included sample letters of support for Assembly Bill 1041 and Senate Bill 468.



### **Nominations Process / Nominations**

Trena Wade- Acting Chair

The Nomination process was postponed until the first day of the next meeting as per the bylaws.



### **Member Reports**

Member reports were submitted by writing due to time constraints.



### **3:00pm- Adjourn**

Trena Wade, Acting Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:00pm.



### **Member Reports**

Member reports were submitted by writing due to time constraints.

**Willie West**, Area Board 1 Representative, provided a written report even though he was unable to attend the meeting. On August 13, 2012 Willie provided testimony to the Assembly Human Services committee in Support of the SB 468 Self-Determination bill. He would like everyone to have the opportunity to choose to get services through self-determination.

**Michael Arbios**, Area Board 4 Representative, gave training to staff of a group home about how people with disabilities have been treated throughout history and what rights are. He also gave a presentation about his life to self advocates at day program and a regional self advocacy meeting. He is starting his own business giving advocacy presentations. He is getting individualized support funded by North Bay Regional center to start a business. Michael also shared copies of AB4s regional Self Advocacy newsletter. They are having their next Regional Self Advocacy meeting on October 18<sup>th</sup> with guest speaker will be Assembly Member Yamada.

**Regina Woodliff**, Area Board 5 Representative, continues to be very active with People First activities. In June she presented at the People First Gathering in San Jose. She visited 3 People First Chapters in her area, Mr. Diablo, San Mateo, and Marin. She is always proud to inform others that she is part of the SSAN. Regina will be attending a retreat with People First on September 20, 2013 and is scheduled to attend the Golden Gate Self Advocacy Conference in San Francisco on September 25<sup>th</sup> – the theme is Person Centered Thinking. Area Board 5 has hired a new Executive Director and his name is Gabriel Rogin. Regina continues to love her job at the Thrift Store and is trying to stay on track losing weight and being healthy.

**Robert Balderama**, Area Board 6 Representative, will be attending the Self Advocacy Council 6 area meeting on November 1<sup>st</sup> in Modesto. Robert gives a SSAN report at each Area Board 6 board meeting. Robert recently became a Valley Mountain Regional Center board



member and will share SSAN information at meetings. He will be attending the Self Advocacy Council 6 retreat in Sonora this weekend and will be sharing SSAN information.

**Sigrid Bremer**, Area Board 9 Representative, reported that People First of Santa Barbara had Joseph Buccroder & Kendra visit from Tri-Counties Regional Center. Sigrid spoke to People First of Ventura about the SSAN Network and asked them what they were interested in. People First of Ventura County has a fundraiser on September 19, 2013. There is also a Self Advocacy Conference on September 28, 2013. The Area Board 9 board meeting will be at Tri Counties Regional Center.

**Kyle Minnis**, Area Board 11 Representative reports that the Self Advocates of Orange County, SAOC, is having some issues with transportation and looking at different ways to communicate other than meeting in person. Area Board 11 staff recently provided an IEP workshop and an IPP workshop for parents in the local area.

**Trena Wade**, Area Board 13 Representative, has been involved with a 4 hour leadership training on “How to Advocate with your Elected Officials” and she will be repeating this training in Imperial Valley; Participated with a Conference Planning Committee, elected new chairs and met 2 times; Planning meetings for Regional Center trainings on Health & Wellness; Planning meeting for Regional Center staff on Road Blocks to advocacy; 3 Native American Cultural Events and Planning meetings. Trena has Voter Ed, Rachel’s gift basket project, & Teddy Bear Dance coming up. She used the Legislation resource handout from Area 9 last meeting. As part of our goal to reach out to the underserved, Trena attended a meeting of the American Indian Heritage Dinner and has agreed to help serve at the upcoming cultural dinner gathering on Dec 7 and do a table and she is looking for materials to distribute during the event.

**Jennifer Allen**, SCDD Representative, went to a Regional People First meeting and learned a lot of hiring a personal assistant. Jennifer is going back to San Diego and will see if any changes were made to the transportation issue we had when we were there in July.



**Robert Levy**, UCD Mind Institute Representative did a presentation on June 20, 2013 in Napa for Area Board 4 about the importance of inclusion. On June 25, 2013 Robert went to the Capitol and testified supporting the bill AB 1041, called “The Employment First Policy” written by Assemblyman Wes Chesbro for the Senate Appropriations Committee. On September 1, 2013 Robert sent out two emails putting the word out for those people about the progress of the AB 1041 called “The Employment First Policy” and what step is going to be next to become a law. On October 30, 2013, Robert will be doing a presentation about employment at the UCD Mind Institute for the National Disability Awareness Month Event called “Pathways to Employment.”

**Nicole Patterson**, DDS Representative has been working with DDS’s DAC to plan an activity to DDS employees around Disability Awareness month in the month of October. The DDS CAC has six new CAC members starting in November. Not that the first rounds of NCI surveys have been completed, DDS CAC has formed a sub-committee which meets twice a month and Nicole helps facilitate this meeting to give their recommendations to the NCI Stakeholders committee next steps. Nicole is also working on the Feeling Safe Being Safe Webcast to make it more user friendly. Nicole will be attending the Association of California State Employees with Disabilities (ACSED) training symposium on September 24, 2013. On October 22, 2013, DDS will have a guest speaker, Laurie Hoirup come talk about what it is like for her as a person with a disability as an employer and an employee. Terri Delgadillo, Director of the Department of Developmental Services announced that she will be retiring from state service.

**Daniel Meadows**, Disability Rights California Representative, completed trainings on social security and employment. They have created an appeal rights publication and a supported employment handbook. Daniel has been helping clients on a one to one basis to advocate for themselves. Daniel will be scheduling a lot of upcoming trainings on voting and his unit will be presenting at the Supported Life Conference.

**Ted Jackson**, California Foundation of Independent Living Centers (CFILC) Representative has been working on the Disability Organizing Network's (DO Network) Access Now campaigns to advocate for systemic change on transportation, leadership development opportunities, access to resources, changes in Bay area transportation safety. Procedures, the health care exchange (Covered California) and voting. You can join the DO Network at [www.disabilityorganizing.net](http://www.disabilityorganizing.net). They are offering two webinars this month: 1) Disability Pride & Culture: Superfest Disability Film Festival on September 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am 2) Access Now: Know Your Rights Workshop on September 25<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. To sign up for these webinar, please go to the DO Network website and click on "Training Events." There will be an announcement for a Voting Summit in November.

**Kecia Weller**, UCLA-UCEDD Representative, is the liaison for the Tarjan Center Advisory committee. She has developed and disseminated 1 monthly electronic newsletter to the Tarjan Center faculty, staff and advisory committee that includes events, presentation, and publication of the Tarjan Center. Kecia has participated in strategic planning meetings with faculty and staff to share resources and information and to plan current fiscal years goals and objectives. Kecia assists the Tarjan Center in their recruitment efforts for the Tarjan Center Advisory Committee, develop an orientation, and recruitment packet, and research new potential applicants. Kecia is the youth advisor to the CECY YAC (California Employment Consortium for Youth – Youth Advisory Committee). She calls in to the conference calls along with Dr. Raynor, Rachel Flores, CECY Communication Director going guidance and taking input from CECY YAC members. Kecia brought 3 different items to share: 1) A copy of a flier showing how to order a copy of Steven Kapp's Book that he co-authored "Empowering Leadership: A Systems Change Guide for Autistic College Studies and Those with Other Disabilities. 2) A handout of the National Arts and Disability Center. 3) A handout by Dr. Elizabeth Laugeson of PEERS Clinic.